

A Taxonomic Note on the Ant *Monomorium intrudens*
F. SMITH (Hymenoptera, Formicidae)¹⁾

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Monomorium intrudens was originally described by F. SMITH in 1874 from Hiogo (Hyōgo), Japan. WHEELER (1906) regarded this name as a junior synonym of *M. floricola* (JERDON, 1851), acting on a note which he had received from EMERY (cf. EMERY, 1908). It is certain that this treatment was made without examination of the *intrudens* holotype but was based only on SMITH's original and rather poor description.

Recently the junior author examined the holotype of *M. intrudens* and much *floricola* material preserved in the British Museum (BOLTON, 1987). He compared them with fresh Japanese material collected by Masahiro TANAKA on Mt. Yoshidayama, Kyoto, and found that the name *intrudens* was wrongly synonymized under *floricola* and that the holotype of *intrudens* exactly agrees with Japanese material of *M. nipponense* WHEELER and its original description. Thus it was concluded that the name *intrudens* is valid and that *nipponense* is a junior synonym of *intrudens*.

In his posthumous work, TERANISHI (1940) described 3 infraspecific forms of *M. nipponense*. However, his description was incomplete, and what is worse, his collection was burnt during World War II (ONOYAMA, 1982). Though we were not able to see the types of his forms of *nipponense*, the distinguishing characters mentioned by him are very minor. It seems most probable that these forms fall within the variation of a single species, and that these names are synonyms of *intrudens*.

Monomorium intrudens F. SMITH

Monomorium intrudens F. SMITH, 1874, Trans. ent. Soc. Lond., 1874: 406. [Reinstated by BOLTON, 1987, 310.]

Monomorium intrudens: WHEELER, 1906 (in synonymy), Bull. Amer. Mus. nat. Hist., 22: 310.

1) Contribution from the Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, Fukuoka (Ser. 3, No. 308).

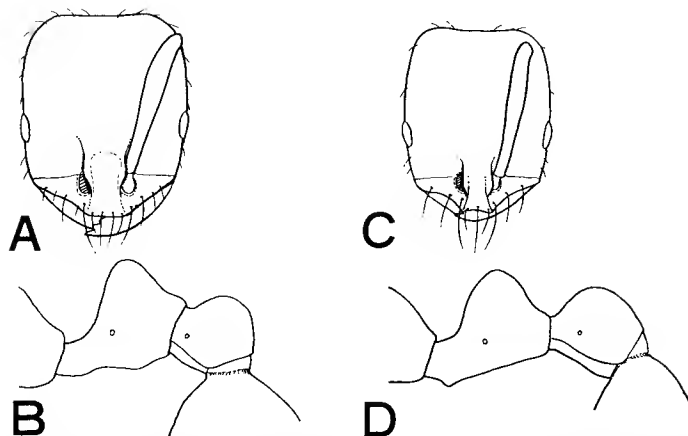


Fig. 1. Head (A, C), petiole and postpetiole (B, D). — A-B, *Monomorium intrudens*, worker (from Mt. Hikosan, Fukuoka Pref., Kyushu, Japan); C-D, *M. floricola*, worker (from Sueyoshi, Naha City, Okinawa Is., Ryukyus, Japan).

[Wrongly synonymized with *M. floricola* (JERDON).]

Monomorium nipponense WHEELER, 1906, *ibid.*, 22: 310. [Synonymy by BOLTON, 1987, 310.]

Monomorium nipponense var. *gracilum* TERANISHI, 1940, Works of Cho TERANISHI, posthumous section, 29, n. syn.

Monomorium nipponense var. *robustum* TERANISHI, 1940, *ibid.*, 29, n. syn.

Monomorium nipponense var. *satoi* TERANISHI, 1940, *ibid.*, 30, n. syn.

Monomorium intrudens is one of the common ants of Japan, while *M. floricola*, known as a pan-tropical tramp species, is found in the southern area of Japan. The former is distinguished from the latter by the following characters: 1) Gaster dark, the rest of body light yellow (head, gaster and femora dark and the rest yellowish in *floricola*); 2) median portion of anterior clypeal margin not concave; paired longitudinal carinae on clypeus weak (Fig. 1 A) (median portion of anterior clypeal margin concave, longitudinal carinae distinct in *floricola* — Fig. 1 C); 3) ventral portion of petiole sinuate without angulate process (Fig. 1 B) (ventral portion of petiole with angulate small process in *floricola* — Fig. 1 D).

We would like to express our thanks to Messrs Y. FUKUMOTO, Naha, M. TANAKA, Tokyo for their kindness in offering material and Prof. Y. HIRASHIMA, Kyushu University for reading the manuscript.

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